



Mini people will ride the minibus on the mini-line which makes mini-stops and mini-turns around the mini-stores and mini-shops in downtown Lincoln.

New transportation: Mini-line

Many students are taking advantage of Lincoln's newest public transportation, the red and white mini-bus, according to Ben Prieb of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.

The Mini-Line, which began service Nov. 13, is a private enterprise, underwritten by 96 Lincoln businesses, Prieb said.

There are four of the 16-

passenger buses, running a downtown route from 8:45-5:45 daily. The Mini-Line runs from 13th and O St. south to J St., then east to the State Capitol, back to K St., east to 17th, then to R St. On R St. the Mini-Line stops at 13th (Campus Book Store corner), turns to O St., goes west to 11th, 11th to J St., J to 10th to O St., then back to 13th.

The entire route takes about 20 minutes, Prieb said, depending on traffic. The fare is a dime, and passengers can catch the bus about every five minutes.

The Mini-Line has had about 500 passengers a day, according to Prieb. "We hope to double that before the year is out." The weather has not been bad enough for heavy usage of the buses, Prieb said.

Operating on a 15-month trial basis, the Mini-Line has been in planning for about a year, according to Prieb. A California firm demonstrated the Mini-bus here last fall, he said. Lincoln businessmen then conducted a finance campaign to buy them, and the buses were ordered in July.

The mini-bus has several advantages over larger city buses, Prieb said. They do not burn diesel fuel, reducing exhaust fumes. The mini-buses are air-conditioned and better-heated than larger vehicles. Also the mini-bus handles easier in traffic, pulls right up to the curb, and has no inconvenient step-up.

The minibuses are being used in many cities, he said, either as the total transportation or as a supplement to older systems. Lincoln is the only city where the Mini-Line is a totally private enterprise.

In Washington, D.C., for in-

stance, the mini-buses are operated by a federal grant, Prieb said. In Detroit, another city where mini-buses are being used successfully, the buses are financed partly by the city and partly by private enterprise.

Campus Calendar

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Thursday, Dec. 4 | Nebraska Union | 6:30 p.m. |
| 12:30 p.m. | Placement | AUF Exec. |
| 3 p.m. | Pi Lambda Theta Tea | Union Talks & Topics - Dinner |
| Free University - Personal | Development Lab | YWCA Juvenile Court |
| 3:30 p.m. | Union Talks & Topics - Bill Russell | AUF Board |
| 4 p.m. | Builders - Culture | Christian Science Org. |
| 4:30 p.m. | Union Talks & Topics | 7 p.m. |
| AWS Commission on Women | YWCA Cabinet | YWCA Cultural Crafts |
| 6 p.m. | Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia | NU Flying Club "Red Barons" Quiz Bowl |
| | | NU Chess Club |
| | | ASUN Human Rights |
| | | ASUN Staff |
| | | Quiz Bowl Isolation |
| | | 7:30 p.m. |
| | | Math Counselors |
| | | 8 p.m. |
| | | Young Democrats |
| | | NHRRF - Teen Age Project |

Latortue will speak at Business College

Professor Gerard R. Latortue will speak on "Current Development Strategies in the English-Speaking Caribbean" at 3:30 p.m. Thursday in room 328 of the College of Business Administration.

The current chairman of the Department of Economics and Business Administration at Inter-American University, San German, Puerto Rico, Professor Latortue holds a law degree from the University of Haiti and completed his graduate training in political economy development at the University of Paris.

Professor Latortue has written extensively on problems of economic development in the Caribbean. He is a consultant

to a number of industrial concerns in the West Indies and has held important governmental positions in Haiti.

The scene is prefaced by

Film attempts to show silent policy support

by PAUL IDEKER
College Press Service

Washington — In the shadow of the Washington Mobilization against the War in Vietnam, the United States Information Agency (USIA) has produced a film which attempts to establish the actual existence of a so-called "silent majority" of Americans who support the president's Vietnam policy.

The USIA, which is directly responsible to the Executive branch of the government, has shipped the film, entitled "The Silent Majority," in nine different languages, to 104 countries including Vietnam. It took 12 days to produce the 15 minute film which cost \$20,000 to make.

United States citizens are not allowed to view the film or any of the material produced by the USIA without an act of Congress, because the material is not intended for American audiences and could be considered politically in favor of the party in power.

Spokesmen for the USIA maintain that the purpose of "The Silent Majority" is to take the "other side" to the people of the world — the story that does not get covered in the regular foreign commercial press.

However, the film appears to have had a very different effect on others, outside the agency, who have viewed it so far. Two Congressmen important to domestic and foreign information committees, John E. Moss (D-Calif.) and Ogden R. Reid (R-N.Y.), were quick to criticize the film after a special showing in Moss' office.

Reid indicated that he was "not entirely satisfied" with the film while Moss told newsmen that the film indicates a subtle change by an agency committed to informing, to a commitment of propaganda.

"That was not the role assigned to the agency," commented Moss. "I think it most appropriate to show demonstrations for or against U.S. Vietnam policy or both," he added.

"To establish the reality of a 'silent majority' in America the film uses a Gallup Poll taken immediately following President Nixon's November speech. The poll, conducted by telephone, involved 500 randomly selected respondents from across the country. At one point in the film, George Gallup, president of the American Institute of Public Opinion, is questioned by the film's Black commentator Wiley Davis.

The scene is prefaced by

Davis asking his audience: "But how can President Nixon tell that these people support him? How does he know that they make up a majority? ... Well one way to find out what's on their minds is to conduct a nationwide poll. I did the next best thing. I talked with someone who directed a poll, a researcher respected for his objective approach and renowned for the reliability of his methods."

Gallup explains his method, and offers the accuracy rate his organization has had conducting previous polls as a means of substantiating the legitimacy of this most recent poll. No other evidence that the silent majority does in fact exist is offered during the remaining minutes of the film.

In another scene, former Vice President Hubert Humphrey, described by the film as "President Nixon's chief opponent in the last election . . . and a leader in the Democratic party" is talking with newsmen just after an earlier visit with the President at the White House.

"I think we have to realize that the President is moving, he is trying and I believe he is making some progress," Humphrey continues. "I think what he (Nixon) has done is good. I hope he can do more. I believe that no man in this country is more desirous of bringing about the exception of a workable settlement in Vietnam as the President in the United States."

The film's main purpose seems to be to install the "silent majority" as a truism rather than mere conjecture on the part of the President. After the interview with Gallup, there are no qualifications attached to the term "silent majority." For the purposes of this film, and presumably for its audience, it has become an established fact. To further substantiate that fact, quick clips of farm workers, factory workers, mothers, and just plain folks, including noticeable representation of Blacks, chicanos, and orientals are used "symbolically" to give visual "life" to the "silent majority."

To a lesser extent the film deals with the right to dissent in America. The film opens with Davis speaking from a balcony above a part of the line of march which is moving up Pennsylvania Avenue. The

crowd is out of focus in the background as he begins to speak: "Today I'm watching a demonstration against America's policy in Vietnam. These demonstrators were given permission by the government to carry their protest right through the heart of the city within sight of the White House. Climaxing the three-day demonstration is a rally at the Washington Monument."

There is no discussion in the film of the confrontation between the demonstrators and the U.S. Justice Department over parade permits prior to the march. The spokesman for the march, dismissed as "nit-picking contentions by a reporter" the march, in fact, was not view of the White House, that most of the people at the sidelines were actually trying to make their way to the grounds of the Capitol to join the march.

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